

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

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3/4/04
1. (Currently Amended) A torque limiting coupling, comprising:

a longitudinal axis;

a tubular coupling housing having a connecting bore portion starting from a first axial end, said connecting bore portion in a cross-sectional plane crossing the longitudinal axis at a right angle, having a circumferential inner contour which is non-circular, and said coupling housing having an insertion bore portion:

an inner coupling member accommodated in the insertion bore portion of the coupling housing, said inner coupling member coaxially surrounded by the coupling housing;

torque transmitting elements between said inner coupling member and said coupling housing causing a rotational torque transmission between the coupling housing and the inner coupling member;

a connecting element including a connecting portion, said connecting portion accommodated in the connecting bore portion of the coupling housing adjacent said first axial end, said connecting portion including an outer contour, in cross-section, which follows the inner contour of the coupling housing at a radial distance, such that a clearance exists between the inner and outer contours; and

connection means for connecting the coupling housing to the connecting element wherein said coupling housing and said connecting elements are movably held

relative to each other in a limited way, the connection means are arranged in an area of the connecting bore portion of the coupling housing and the connecting portion of the connecting element and comprise at least one opening in the coupling housing and per each opening comprise a pin or a screw insertable into an insertion bore of the connecting element.

2. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to claim 1, wherein the connection means enable a limited angular movement, axial movement ~~and/or~~ or radial movement or a combination of said movements.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, wherein the pin or screw engage the opening with a clearance.

5. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to claim 1, wherein the coupling housing over its total axial length has rib-like projections extending parallel to the longitudinal axis, said rib-like projections forming grooves in the inner contour of the coupling housing.